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10/519,348	12/27/2004	Mark Beckmann	071308.1136	2971

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EXAMINER	
MILLER, BRANDON J	
ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2617	

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/519,348	BECKMANN ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	BRANDON J. MILLER	2617	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE *3* MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *15 October 2009*.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *11-13,16 and 18-23* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☒ Claim(s) *11-13,16 and 18-21* is/are allowed.

6)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.

7)☒ Claim(s) *21-23* is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *27 December 2004* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☒ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

Disposition of Claims

I. Claims 11-13, 16, and 18-23 are pending in the application.

Allowable Subject Matter

II. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

Claim 11 recites a method for transmitting a plurality of group messages to a plurality of radio communication devices in at least one radio cell of a radio communication network operating according to a universal mobile telecommunication system standard, each radio communication device belonging to one or more defined groups suitable to receive group messages corresponding to that defined group with steps as defined in the specification (pages 8-14) including assigning each group message to a respectively dedicated shared transport channel corresponding to one of the defined groups; transmitting toward the plurality of radio communication devices data of a particular group message intended for a particular defined group during at least one time interval; transmitting to the plurality of radio communication devices a first indicator, corresponding to the particular defined group during the time interval, and configuring assignment information for the assignment of the first indicator such that each of the plurality of radio communication devices can identify the particular defined group based at least on the first indicator and the assignment information to determine whether that radio communication device is suitable to receive the particular group message; wherein, based on the

assignment information, radio communication devices that are not part of the particular defined group pause during the time interval according to an algorithm.

The prior art teaches a method for transmitting a plurality of group messages to a plurality of radio communication devices in at least one radio cell of a radio communication network operating according to a universal mobile telecommunication system standard, each radio communication device belonging to one or more defined groups suitable to receive group messages corresponding to that defined group including assigning each group message to a respectively dedicated shared transport channel corresponding to one of the defined groups; transmitting toward the plurality of radio communication devices data of a particular group message intended for a particular defined group during at least one time interval; and transmitting to the plurality of radio communication devices a first indicator, corresponding to the particular defined group during the time interval.

However, applicant's independent claim 11 comprises a particular combination of steps, as recited above, which allows for configuring assignment information for the assignment of the first indicator such that each of the plurality of radio communication devices can identify the particular defined group based at least on the first indicator and the assignment information to determine whether that radio communication device is suitable to receive the particular group message; wherein, based on the assignment information, radio communication devices that are not part of the particular defined group pause during the time interval according to an algorithm.

This is neither taught nor suggested by the prior art.

Claims 12-13, 16, and 18 are allowable based on their dependence on independent claim 11.

Claim 19 recites a network controller for transmitting a plurality of group messages to a plurality of radio communication devices in at least one radio cell of a radio communication network operating according to a universal mobile telecommunication system standard, each radio communication device belonging to one or more defined groups suitable to receive group messages corresponding to that defined group with a structure as defined in the specification (pages 8-14) including means for assigning each group message to a respectively dedicated shared transport channel corresponding to one of the defined groups; means for transmitting toward the plurality of radio communication devices data of a particular group message intended for a particular defined group during at least one time interval; parts for transmitting to the plurality of radio communication devices a first indicator corresponding to the particular defined group during the time interval, and configuring assignment information for the assignment of the first indicator such that each of the plurality of radio communication devices can identify the particular defined group based at least on the first indicator and the assignment information to determine whether that radio communication device is suitable to receive the particular group message; wherein, based on the assignment information, radio communication devices that are not part of the particular defined group pause during the time interval according to an algorithm.

The prior art teaches a device for transmitting a plurality of group messages to a plurality of radio communication devices in at least one radio cell of a radio communication network operating according to a universal mobile telecommunication system standard, each radio communication device belonging to one or more defined groups suitable to receive group messages corresponding to that defined group including means for assigning each group message to a respectively dedicated shared transport channel corresponding to one of the defined groups;

means for transmitting toward the plurality of radio communication devices data of a particular group message intended for a particular defined group during at least one time interval; and parts for transmitting to the plurality of radio communication devices a first indicator, corresponding to the particular defined group during the time interval.

However, applicant's independent claim 19 comprises a particular structure, as recited above, which allows for configuring assignment information for the assignment of the first indicator such that each of the plurality of radio communication devices can identify the particular defined group based at least on the first indicator and the assignment information to determine whether that radio communication device is suitable to receive the particular group message; wherein, based on the assignment information, radio communication devices that are not part of the particular defined group pause during the time interval according to an algorithm.

This is neither taught nor suggested by the prior art.

Claim 20 recites a radio communication device for receiving at least one group message which is transmitted to a plurality of radio communication devices in at least one radio cell of a radio communication network operating according to a universal mobile telecommunication system standard, each radio communication device belonging to one or more defined groups suitable to receive group messages corresponding to that defined group with a structure as defined in the specification (pages 8-14) including means for receiving group messages each assigned to a respectively dedicated shared transport channel corresponding to one of the defined groups; means for receiving data of a particular group message intended for a particular defined group during at least one time interval; means for receiving a first indicator, corresponding to the

particular defined group during the time interval, and receiving configured assignment information for indicating the assignment of the first indicator such that each of the plurality of radio communication devices can identify the particular defined group based at least on the received first indicator and the assignment information to determine whether that radio communication device is suitable to receive the particular group message; wherein, based on the assignment information, radio communication devices that are not part of the particular defined group pause during the time interval according to an algorithm.

The prior art teaches a device for receiving at least one group message which is transmitted to a plurality of radio communication devices in at least one radio cell of a radio communication network operating according to a universal mobile telecommunication system standard, each radio communication device belonging to one or more defined groups suitable to receive group messages corresponding to that defined group including means for receiving group messages each assigned to a respectively dedicated shared transport channel corresponding to one of the defined groups; means for receiving data of a particular group message intended for a particular defined group during at least one time interval; means for receiving a first indicator, corresponding to the particular defined group during the time interval

However, applicant's independent claim 20 comprises a particular structure, as recited above, which allows for receiving configured assignment information for indicating the assignment of the first indicator such that each of the plurality of radio communication devices can identify the particular defined group based at least on the received first indicator and the assignment information to determine whether that radio communication device is suitable to receive the particular group message; wherein, based on the assignment information, radio

communication devices that are not part of the particular defined group pause during the time interval according to an algorithm.

This is neither taught nor suggested by the prior art.

Claim 21 recites a method for transmitting a plurality of group messages to a plurality of radio communication devices over a plurality of different transport channels mapped onto the same composite transport channel in at least one radio cell of a radio communication network operating according to a universal mobile telecommunication system standard, each radio communication device belonging to one or more defined groups suitable to receive group messages corresponding to that defined group with steps as defined in the specification (pages 8-14) including storing at each radio communication device a set of device-specific configurations defining links between one or more indicators and one or more corresponding group-related values as a function of the number and identity of the defined groups to which that device belongs, wherein for certain radio communication devices, the group-related values linked to the same indicator are different; assigning each group message to a respectively dedicated shared transport channel corresponding to one of the defined groups; transmitting toward the plurality of radio communication devices data of a particular group message intended for a particular defined group during at least one time interval; transmitting to the plurality of radio communication devices a first indicator, corresponding to the particular defined group during the time interval, such that each of the plurality of radio communication devices can access from its stored device-specific configurations the group-related values, if any, linked to the first indicator in order to

determine whether that radio communication device is suitable to receive the particular group message.

The prior art teaches a method for transmitting a plurality of group messages to a plurality of radio communication devices in at least one radio cell of a radio communication network operating according to a universal mobile telecommunication system standard, each radio communication device belonging to one or more defined groups suitable to receive group messages corresponding to that defined group including assigning each group message to a respectively dedicated shared transport channel corresponding to one of the defined groups; transmitting toward the plurality of radio communication devices data of a particular group message intended for a particular defined group during at least one time interval; and transmitting to the plurality of radio communication devices a first indicator, corresponding to the particular defined group during the time interval.

However, applicant's independent claim 21 comprises a particular combination of steps, as recited above, which allows for transmitting a plurality of group messages to a plurality of radio communication devices over a plurality of different transport channels mapped onto the same composite transport channel; storing at each radio communication device a set of device-specific configurations defining links between one or more indicators and one or more corresponding group-related values as a function of the number and identity of the defined groups to which that device belongs, wherein for certain radio communication devices, the group-related values linked to the same indicator are different; and transmitting to the plurality of radio communication devices a first indicator, corresponding to the particular defined group during the time interval, such that each of the plurality of radio communication devices can

access from its stored device-specific configurations the group-related values, if any, linked to the first indicator in order to determine whether that radio communication device is suitable to receive the particular group message.

This is neither taught nor suggested by the prior art.

Claim Objections

III. Claim 20 is objected to because of the following informalities: Claim 20 recites "one of the defined groups group" in line 9. This appears to be a typographical error. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim 22 is objected to because of the following informalities: Claim 22 is dependent upon cancelled claim 14. Appropriate correction is required.

Double Patenting

IV. Claim 23 is objected to under 37 CFR 1.75 as being a substantial duplicate of claim 16. When two claims in an application are duplicates or else are so close in content that they both cover the same thing, despite a slight difference in wording, it is proper after allowing one claim to object to the other as being a substantial duplicate of the allowed claim. See MPEP § 706.03(k).

Response to Arguments

V. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 22-23 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of objection.

Conclusion

VI. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Hickson et al. Patent No.: US 6,226,641 B2 discloses access control for groups of related data items.

Screenivasan et al. Patent No.: US 7,627,694 B2 discloses maintaining process group membership for node clusters in high availability computing systems.

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of objection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to BRANDON J. MILLER whose telephone number is (571)272-7869. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Fri. 8:00 am to 5:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, George Eng can be reached on 571-272-7495. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/George Eng/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2617

/Brandon J Miller/
Examiner, Art Unit 2617

January 2, 2010